

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#3 Pre Amend A  
L. Nelson  
12/14/00

In re Continuation Application of )  
Appln. No. 08/836,029; filed )  
August 27, 1997 in the name of: ) Group Art Unit: 3724  
)  
Morikatsu MATSUDA et al. ) Examiner: C. Goodman  
)  
Application No.: Unassigned ) Attorney Docket No. 000004.00609  
)  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
)  
For: PUNCHING MACHINE AND ) Date: September 13, 2000  
METHOD THEREOF )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 2, lines 7-8, delete "according to claim 1 of the invention,";

lines 28-29, delete both lines in their entirety and insert in their place --In a

A1 particular embodiment, the first and second--

Page 3, lines 4-5, delete both lines in their entirety and insert in their place --The

A2 punching machine can further comprise a clutch--;